

# Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

November 8th, 2020

**Theme:** When God called on Jonah to proclaim destruction to his mortal enemies, Jonah tried to flee. But even in the deep, dark sea God found him and granted him a second chance. God went on to give a second chance to Nineveh, too. Everyone God encountered here was filled with the abundance of God's mercy.

## PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

God is gracious!

**And God is merciful!**

The Lord doesn't easily anger,

**And abounds in love and mercy!**

God is ready to forgive with open arms.

**Let us praise God!**

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### OPENING SONG

*I Will Call Upon the Lord*

I will call upon the Lord (echo)

who is worthy to be praised. (echo)

So shall I be saved from my enemies. I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, and let the God of my salvation be exalted. (repeat)

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: **Gracious God, you show abundant mercy even when we cannot see the purpose of it. Give us your heart of compassion and love for all of your children, regardless of who or where they may be, in the name of Jesus. Amen**

### FIRST READING

Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10; 4:1-11

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

### GOSPEL

Matthew 12:38-42

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The reading concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

### SERMON

#### SERMON HYMN

*Lift High the Cross*

#660

**REFRAIN: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.**

**Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod, our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain**

**All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brows the seal of him who died. Refrain**

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. Refrain**

**So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. God of mercy, **Hear our prayer**

Receive our prayers and assure us of your unfailing mercy which is ours through Christ Jesus, who taught us to pray...

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*We Are Called*

#720

**Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!  
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.**

**CHORUS: We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly;  
we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.**

**Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!  
We are called to be hope for the hopeless so hatred and blindness will be no more. *Chorus***

**Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!  
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love. *Chorus***

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, stay safe and be safe. God is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**